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Wetherby Rural District Council

A
REPORT
on the
HEALTH of the DISTRICT
DURING YEAR 1949

by
RONALD G. SMITHSON
Medical Officer of Health.

and
JOHN MARRIOTT
Engineer, Surveyor and
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

WETHERBY:
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WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:

MAJOR J. H. HUDSON, M.C., J.P., C.A., Hill Top House, Wetherby.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

L. R. BURRELL, ESQ., J.P., 4, Raby Park, Wetherby.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Chairman: L. R. BURRELL, ESQ., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: E. FITZGERALD HART, ESQ.

THE FULL COUNCIL.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Chairman: J. NORFOLK, ESQ., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: A. HAIGH-LUMBY, ESQ.

THE FULL COUNCIL.

WATER COMMITTEE:

Chairman: R. PROCTER, ESQ.

Vice-Chairman: J. W. WATSON, ESQ.

THE FULL COUNCIL.

PERSONNEL DETAILS

DIVISIONAL HEALTH ORGANISATION

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer:

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officers:

HONORA JOHANNA TWOMEY, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H. Left
31st March, 1949.

ELIZABETH JEAN BRICK, M.B., Ch.B. Commenced 1st April, 1949.

PETER STANLEY RICHARD BURRELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Commenced 18th July, 1949.

Part-time Medical Officers at Clinics:

R. N. Crossley, L.M.S.S.A.

Katharine M. Hick, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

W. Murphy, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

J. A. Young, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

} Until 31st Dec., 1949.

Consultants and Specialists working in Division:

Ear, Nose and Throat:

R. Thomas, B.A., B.M., B.Ch. (Oxon), D.L.O.

Eye:

R. Burns, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., N.U.I.

Obstetrical:

C. Rutherford Morison, M.A., M.B., C.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopaedic:

D. H. Russell, M.C., M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.

Paediatric:

W. Henderson, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Tuberculosis:

V. Ryan, M.D., N.U.I., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

C. A. Koefoed, M.D., Ch.B., Ph.B.

Dental Officers:

Miss R. Sclere, L.D.S.

G. O. Wood, L.D.S.

D. B. Owen, L.D.S.

Speech Therapist:

Mrs. Alix S. Snow.

NURSING STAFF:

Health Visitors/School Nurses:

Miss G. E. Brigham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Commenced 9th May,
1949.

Miss I. V. Brigham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Queens). Commenced
13th July, 1949.

Miss J. W. Brigham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Commenced 17th
October, 1949.

Miss Manuel, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Commenced 11th April, 1949.

Mrs. E. Marsden, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. M. A. Page, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Left 31st May, 1949.

Miss E. F. Rutledge, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss C. Swift, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

PERSONNEL DETAILS—Continued

Home Nurse:

Miss L. Evamy, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens).

Home Nurses/Midwives:

Miss E. E. Basher, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens).

Mrs. E. Bithell, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss A. Girdlestone, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss H. M. Glennie, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Miss A. E. Hickes, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss E. C. Hodgson, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens).

Mrs. G. Jeffries, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Mrs. E. Linley, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss M. Murphy, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss W. E. Payne, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss E. D. Pickles, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Mrs. M. Precious, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss A. Sellers, S.R.N., C.M.B. Commenced 15th February, 1949.

Miss A. Tolland S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens). Commenced 1st June, 1949,
left 31st December, 1949.

Miss M. E. Watson, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Dental Attendants:

Miss Allathorne.

Miss Horton.

Physiotherapist:

Miss A. M. Sugden.

Assistant Health Visitor/School Nurse:

Mrs. E. Clark, S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Visitor:

Mrs. E. M. Askam, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert. (Queens).

V.D. Social Worker:

Miss E. M. Senior.

Mental Health:

Miss E. Buck (Social Worker).

Miss Moxon (Home Teacher).

Ambulance Service:

Section Leader: F. Ward.

CLERICAL STAFF:

Senior Clerk: F. H. Attack.

Miss S. Graham.

Mrs. M. E. M. Humphreys. Left 12th March, 1949.

Miss B. A. Jackson.

Miss H. M. Johnson. Commenced 21st February, 1949.

Mrs. Pickup. Commenced 27th June, 1949, left 30th December, 1949

Miss M. E. Strothard. Left 30th, June, 1949.

PERSONNEL DETAILS—Continued

ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT

***Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer:**

JOHN MARRIOTT, M.I.Mun.E., A.M.T.P.I., M.Inst.P.C., M.R.San.I.,
F.S.I.A.

***Deputy Surveyor and Deputy Chief Sanitary Officer:**

WILLIAM LEONARD BARNESLEY, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Surveyor and Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

PETER TELFORD, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Waterworks Attendant and General Foreman:

Brian Wood.

Clerk of Works (Housing):

E. Moon.

Clerk of Works (Engineering):

Frederick Clarkson.

Draughtsman Clerk:

Peter Simmons.

Shorthand Typist:

Mrs. G. Hunter.

Junior Assistant:

Miss K. McGrath.

Consultant Engineer:

Wilf. K. Rodwell, A.M.I.C.E.

Consultant Architects:

W. A. Jones, F.R.I.B.A.

G. A. Burnett, A.R.I.B.A.

Harry Webster, A.R.I.B.A.

*Exchequer contributions to the salaries of these Officers
under the Local Government Act, 1933.

Wetherby House,
WETHERBY.
10th August, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wetherby Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting a third annual report on the Health of the District during 1949 opportunity is once more taken to incorporate a section on the activities of the Divisional Health Office. It has been hoped ere this the Council would have been represented on a Divisional Health and Welfare Committee under delegated powers.

The Vital Statistics for the year show little change from last year. Surprisingly enough the birth rate is somewhat higher. The crude death rate, though raised, compares favourably with that of the last eleven years. As noted in the body of the report the increased number of deaths is entirely accounted for by the increased number of intra cranial catastrophes. The Registrar General has once again started to supply a yearly comparability factor from which the standardised death rate is calculated. The standardised death rate being an expression of the rate which would have applied to the Council's area if the age and sex constitution of the population were precisely that of the country as a whole. It is the figure most properly used in comparing death rates in local authorities' areas.

The Infant Mortality rate, though raised, compares favourably with other areas.

Continued efforts were made to improve environmental hygiene in the District. More extensive comments will be found in the report later.

To you, Mr. Chairman, and all members of the Council, one would wish to acknowledge courtesy, help and understanding throughout the year. Robert Louis Stevenson in "Age and Youth" says "The best they can do is to agree to disagree." I think your Council will regret lowering the bye-law height of rooms to 7ft. 6in.

Colleagues and staff at the Council Offices have been

consistently helpful throughout the year, and one would wish to thank them here.

In the Divisional Health Office we lost the great assistance of Dr. Twomey, who so nobly shouldered much of the burden of the routine of the new Divisional Health administration from its commencement here. With her went our best wishes and sincere appreciation. In succession Dr. Brick and Dr. Burrell joined us. We hope they will enjoy the work they are now called upon to do.

Details of changes of staff in the office are given elsewhere. All the members of the staff gave yeoman service and I am greatly indebted to them.

I am, Mr. Chairman,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD G. SMITHSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

PART I. REPORT AS MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres	64,424
Population 1931 Census	16,317
Population—Registrar-General's Estimate mid-1949	19,440
Number of Inhabited Houses	5,996
Rateable Value 31-3-50	£133,466
Product of 1d. Rate 31-3-50	£559
District Council General Rate 1949/50	4/-
County Council General Rate 1949/50	11/-

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Live Births:	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	167	127	294
Illegitimate	10	11	21
Totals	177	138	315
Birth Rate per thousand population	16.2		
Stillbirths 9. Rate per thousand total births	28.6		
Illegitimate live births represent 7 per cent of total live births.			
Total Deaths from all Causes 203. Crude Death Rate per thousand population	10.4		
Standardised Death Rate per thousand population	10.19		
No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth was 0			
Deaths of Infants under one year:—			
All infants per 1,000 live births (10)	31.7		
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (8)	27.2		
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (2)	95.2		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	24		
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)	2		
Deaths from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)	0		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	1		

WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT.

Comparable Vital Statistics for the year 1949.

Based on Registrar General's Figures.

	Wetherby Rural District	Aggregate West Riding Rural Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (Provi- sional figures)
BIRTH RATE:				
(Per 1,000 estimated population) ...	16.2	18.4	17.2	16.7
DEATH RATES:				
(All per 1,000 estimated population)				
All Causes	10.4	10.8	12.1	11.7
Zymotic Diseases (7 principal) * ...	0.10	0.09	0.08	**
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.10	0.31	0.32	0.40
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	0.06	0.05	0.05
Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory sys- tem) †	0.82	1.31	1.44	**
Cancer	1.23	1.61	1.81	1.87
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ††	3.76	3.70	4.19	**
INFANT MORTALITY:				
(Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	32	42	38	32
DIARRHOEA:				
(Deaths in infants under two years per 1,000 live births)	3.17	3.95	3.27	3.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY:				
(Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births) ...	—	0.13	0.15	0.22
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	0.90	0.68	0.76
Total	—	1.03	0.83	0.93

* Combined death rate from smallpox (if any), scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under two years of age.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia, and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system.

†† Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system.

** Figures not available.

CAUSES OF CIVILIAN DEATHS.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ABRIDGED LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1949

Cause										Number		
										Male	Female	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
7.	Tuberculosis (other forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
10.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer:											
	Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
	Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
14.	Cancer (Stomach and Duodenum)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
15.	Cancer (Breast)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	16
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
18.	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	23	39
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	30	58
20.	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3	10
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
24.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
25.	Diarrhoea (under two years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	11
29.	Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
32.	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
33.	Suicides	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	7
36.	All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	10
Total:										96	107	203

COMPARABLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT From 1937 to Date

Year	Estimated Population at Mid-year	Natural Variation		Live Births		Deaths			
		Increase	— Decrease	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population	Under One Year	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)
(i)	(ii)	(iii)		(iv)		(v)	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)
1937	16900	—	7	228	13.49	235	13.91	12	52.64
1938	16840	32	—	240	14.25	206	12.33	8	33.34
1939	16920	7	—	236	13.93	229	13.15	9	38.00
1940	18130	—	25	214	11.80	239	13.18	15	65.00
1941	18910	4	—	243	13.91	239	12.64	15	55.35
1942	18890	56	—	307	16.25	251	13.28	14	45.60
1943	19240	69	—	295	15.33	226	11.75	7	23.75
1944	20140	143	—	344	17.00	201	9.98	20	58.00
1945	19460	138	—	328	16.83	190	9.76	10	30.49
1946	18820	159	—	380	20.20	221	11.70	11	29.00
1947	18890	133	—	340	18.00	207	11.00	8	24.00
1948	19470	110	—	298	15.31	188	9.66	8	27.00
1949	19440	112	—	315	16.20	203	10.40	10	31.40

From the Registrar General's list of causes of death in the District during 1949, it will be seen that the most frequent causes of death, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rate per thousand of the population were:

Heart Disease	58	deaths equivalent to a death rate of	2.98
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	39	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	2.00
Cancer	24	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	1.20
Other Circulatory Diseases	15	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	0.77
Nephritis	11	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	0.56
Bronchitis	10	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	0.51
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	7	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	0.36
Pneumonia	4	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „	0.20
Tuberculosis, all forms, accounted for two deaths during the year.			

It will be noticed intra cranial vascular lesions accounted for almost double the number of deaths recorded in the previous year from the same cause.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector's report deals with environmental hygiene in detail.

House construction proceeded at a reduced tempo to such an extent that at the close of the year the number of houses under construction reached a figure depressingly small to those who know the amount of distress caused by unsatisfactory living conditions. The Ministry of Health's insistence on the Housing Manual being accepted as the minimum building standard and the refusal of certain members of the Council to accept those standards was in my view a real cause of retarded progress.

It is with regret one has to report the Council found it necessary to depart from the usual principle of absolute priority for re-housing the tuberculous in at least one case during the year.

With a view to improving water supplies in the District. the Council gave notice on the 1st October, 1949, in accordance with the Wetherby Water Company's Act, 1899, to acquire the Company's undertaking on the 1st April, 1950. In taking this step the Council anticipate heavy expenditure, additional to the purchase price, in carrying out necessary improvements. After due consideration of alternatives it was decided, subject

to Ministry of Health approval, to sink a borehole at Stockeld to augment the Sicklinghall area of supply. Although this matter has been represented as a particularly urgent one, Ministry approval is slow in being obtained.

Formal approval to the scheme of main drainage in Angram was received, but despite repeated pressure from the Council the Ministry of Health persisted in refusing to consider the Western area scheme as one unit.

The Council's enlightened policy on Public cleansing, by which many members of the public judge a Council's efficiency, was carried a stage further when it was decided to provide dustbins as part of the Council's public cleansing equipment.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year:—

Name	Total	Cases sent to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	25	17	—
Whooping Cough	163	3	—
Poliomyelitis	5	4	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—
Measles	321	5	1
Acute Pneumonia	17	—	4
Erysipelas	5	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
	—	—	—
Totals ...	539	31	5
	—	—	—

The total number of cases notified shows an increase of 337 as compared with 1948.

Comments.

Perhaps the most significant fact about the above figures is that once again no case of diphtheria was notified during the year. Such a happy state of affairs is entirely due to the widespread use of immunisation against the disease. An assessment of the level of immunity in the area can be made

from the table to be found elsewhere in the report. This level of immunity must be at least maintained by immunisation of young children and boosting those already immunised.

The need for a method of protection of children against whooping cough and measles is readily appreciated from the figures above—especially if those figures are translated into terms of human suffering of the patients and his relatives and all the attendant dangers of sequelae. Methods of protection against these two diseases are already available to medical science, but the reliability of the methods has not yet reached the stage when the Ministry of Health is prepared to sponsor their application as a Local Authorities' service.

Each notified case of poliomyelitis was the subject of a special epidemiological enquiry, but no connecting link was found. Animal inoculation being the only certain way of proving the presence of the infecting agent, and inoculation of monkeys being an expensive business, the sure estimation of the amount of infection in a given population is not easy to assess. It may be infection is much more widely spread than we now think and the notified cases may be only that proportion of infected cases which produce clinically ascertainable paralysis. Be that as it may, a sense of proportion must be maintained and it is suggested, despite the profound anxiety which the presence of poliomyelitis produces, the importance to the community of keeping diphtheria in check and of reducing the incidence of whooping cough and measles is worthy of at least as great an effort as discovering the means of preventing poliomyelitis. The chronic heart disease following diphtheria, the chronic chest condition after whooping cough, and the eye and ear sequelae of measles can be even greater handicaps than the palsied limb left by poliomyelitis.

Anthrax.

Three separate outbreaks of anthrax in cattle were reported by the Police during the summer. Advice was given on disinfection and on the principle that dust infection of milk could not be ruled out, arrangements were made for pasteurising the milk supply for a week. No human involvement occurred. Although strong suspicion of feeding stuffs was aroused, no bacteriological proof of such a source being responsible was obtained.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following figures show the state of the register at 31-12-49 :—

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
27	32	21	17	97

This is an increase of 5 cases over the figures at 31-12-48.

Analysis of new notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis during year :—

CIVILIAN TUBERCULOSIS.

				New Cases		Deaths	
Age				Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
0	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
5	...	...	...	1	3	—	—
15	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
25	...	...	...	2	1	—	—
35	...	...	...	3	—	—	—
45	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
55	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
65 over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

Service Cases : Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1949.

Year of Birth	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION							Totals in year of Birth	Age at 31-12-49 years	Total in Age Groups	No. immunised to date at Age in Col. 9.
	Before 1944	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949				
.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1949							13	13	0-1	625	101
48							117	125	1-2		592
47					5		26	168	2-3		271
46				8	61	137	12	173	3-4		155
45			39	54	23	25	5	146	4-5		146
44		8	23	5	17	19	17	89	5-6	1666	259
43	20	51	3	1	6	23	49	153	6-7		213
42	149	7	2	4	12	12	37	223	7-8		176
41	115	2		3	12	16	37	185	8-9		164
1940	96	5	2		13	18	33	167	9-10		153
39	107		1	1	13	14	37	173	10-11		137
38	202				13	9	21	245	11-12		130
37	139		1		5	9	15	169	12-13		110
36	109				11	5	21	146	13-14		83
35	95		1		9	3	8	116	14-15		22
34	93				4	1	5	103	15-16	461	40
33	85				3	1		89	16-17		
32	89				7			96	17-18		
31	81							81	18-19		
1930	55							55	19-20		
29	10							10	20-21		
28	27							27	21-22		
TOTALS	1472	73	72	76	214	392	453	2752		2752	2752

Boosting doses were given in 676 cases during 1949.

It is estimated 39% of children under 5 years of age and 54% of children 5-14 years of age were immunised at the end of the year.

CLINIC ARRANGEMENTS IN DIVISION No. 9 (Tadcaster and Wetherby Rural Districts).

Abbreviations: A.N.—Ante-Natal. I.W.—Infant Welfare. E.N.T.—Ear, Nose and Throat. T.B.—Tuberculosis.

TOWNSHIP	LOCATION	PURPOSE	DAY AND TIME
MEDICAL OFFICERS' CLINICS			
Bardsey	Trustees Hall.	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Mondays, 1-30 p.m.
Barwick-in-Elmet	Methodist Schoolroom	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, A.N. 11 a.m. I.W. 1-30 p.m.
Boston Spa	West End Nursery School.	I.W.	Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Church Fenton	Methodist Sunday School.	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Church Fenton	R.A.F. Station.	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Thursdays, 1-30 p.m.
Micklefield	Methodist Chapel.	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m. Every 4th Tuesday A.N. Session at 11 a.m.
Sherburn-in-Elmet	Methodist Sunday School.	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Swillington	Wakefield Road (Hut nr. Church).	(A.N./I.W. (Minor Ailment.	Every Thursday, A.N. 11-0 a.m. I.W. 1-30 p.m. Every Wednesday, 9-30 a.m.
Tadcaster	Multiple Clinic, Leeds Road.	(A.N. (I.W. (Minor Ailment. (Speech Therapy. (Orthopaedic Treatment. (Ultra Violet Light.	Alternately Wednesday, 10-0 a.m., and Friday, 1-30 p.m. Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m. Every Tuesday and Thursday, 9-30 a.m. Every Wednesday and Thursday, 9-30 a.m. Every Thursday, 2-0 p.m.
Tockwith	Methodist Sunday School.	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Mondays, 1-30 p.m.
Wetherby	Crossley Street.	(A.N. (I.W. (Minor Ailment. (Speech Therapy.	Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30 p.m. Every Thursday, 1-30 p.m. Every Thursday, 9-30 a.m. Every Tuesday, 9-30 a.m.
CONSULTATIVE CLINICS			
Tadcaster	Multiple Clinic, Leeds Road.	(T.B. (Ophthalmic (E.N.T. (Paediatric. (Orthopaedic.	1st and 3rd Wednesday each month, 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Monday each month, 1-30 p.m. Every 4th Tuesday, 11-0 a.m. 1st Friday each month, 2-0 p.m. 1st Thursday each month, 1-30 p.m.
Wetherby	Crossley Street.	Ophthalmic.	2nd and 4th Monday each month, 10-0 a.m.

PART II. REPORT AS DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

The Annual Health Report being one of the few opportunities for discussing the personal Health Service in the Division, once again a report referring to the whole area is included.

SCHOOLCHILDREN.

In the course of routine periodic school medical examinations, 1,519 children were seen during the year. An additional 13 children were specially examined at Head Teachers' requests and 678 re-inspections of defects found at previous examinations were recorded. In the total of 1,532 children seen, routine or as special cases, 299 items of defect were discovered. 4% of the children seen were estimated below average nutrition.

The school dentists inspected 3,045 children in schools in the area.

The school nurses conducted 6,658 cleanliness examinations during the year. 206 children showed signs of infestation with lice.

Attendances at Minor Ailment Clinics in Swillington, Tadcaster, and Wetherby totalled 370 in the year.

The Consultative Clinics operated throughout the year on the same lines as reported last year. The following statistics are of interest:—

Eye Clinic. 266 children were examined, spectacles prescribed for 206. The parent now takes the prescription to an optician, the bill is paid by the Executive Council, and the School Medical Service has no information whether the glasses are ever obtained and whether they are worn unless we ourselves make enquiry. Our impression is the former long delay in providing schoolchildren with glasses was becoming shorter towards the end of the year.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic. 126 schoolchildren made 133 attendances. 35 were referred for operative treatment and 24 had had the operation carried out by the end of the year. Treatment other than operative was prescribed in 20 cases.

Special Children's Clinic. Dr. Henderson saw 28 children on 32 individual attendances during the year.

Orthopaedic Clinic. Dr. Russell saw 44 children on 49 attendances. The treatment centre for remedial and breathing exercises was used by 240 children who made 890 attendances.

Speech Therapy. 53 cases received treatment during the year.

Sunray Clinic. Arrangements were made at Tadcaster to give

sunray treatment where necessary. Probably as a result of the best summer for many a year no cases were found to be in need of irradiation by the end of the year.

Mothers and Young Children.

A nett increase of Health Visiting Staff of three by the advent of the three Misses Brigham and Miss Manuel after Mrs. Page found it necessary to leave the Division, has been of material assistance in this field. Towards the end of the year each part of the Division was provided with the services of a Health Visitor. The total number of visits during 1949 was 10,911.

Clinic facilities were increased by a fortnightly session for ante-natal and infant welfare purposes in Tockwith.

The ante-natal clinics were attended by 303 expectant mothers on 1,619 occasions. 209 mothers attended 213 times for post-natal purposes.

At the infant welfare clinics a total of 1,403 children below the age of 5 years made 9,716 attendances.

At Hazlewood Castle Haternity Home 742 babies were born, 424 to mothers from outside this Division. 259 children were born at home in the Division. 153 normal residents here had babies born outside the area.

Premature babies (i.e., babies weighing less than 5lb. 8oz. at birth) were born to mothers from this Division in 42 cases, and as part of the special 12 years investigation of such children now being conducted in the County it is hoped to keep records of growth and development as compared with other children born during the same year. Two of the District Nurse/Midwives have had special training in the care of premature babies. A premature baby outfit is maintained at the "ready" at the Ambulance station and Dr. Henderson is readily available for consultation if required.

Special attention is given to the needs of the unmarried mother and illegitimate child. From information received about half of the mothers have had previous pregnancies, the majority are between 20 and 30 years of age, half of them keep the baby and only about one in eight of the mothers marry after the child is born.

Additional services now available include Flying Squads for emergency maternity cases, ante-natal hostel accommodation for mothers needing special care in preparation for child birth, relaxation exercises as some of the ante-natal clinics and the provision of gas and air analgesia for domiciliary confine-

ment. All patients attending the Ante-Natal Clinics are offered routine blood investigations.

In association with the Food Offices, provision is made at the Infant Welfare Clinics for operating the Ministry of Food's Welfare Foods Scheme. Continued experience demonstrates the value of ante-natal as well as post-natal ingestion of articles of high vitamin content.

The full benefit of the Consultative Clinics is made available to the under five year olds.

Home Nursing.

Quietly and for the most part efficiently, the District Nurse/Midwives continue their work in the homes. Deployment of the staff remains as last year with the single exception of Miss Tolland, whom we welcomed on 1st June, 1949, to start a Home Nursing service in Swillington, but who found it necessary to move to another part of the County at the end of the year. Miss Sellers started to do a handsome job as relief District Nurse/Midwife in the Wetherby area in February. All the staff except one continue to perform joint duties.

For the most part, transport, housing and equipment were improved during 1949, but it should be more widely recognised how bleak a future faces some of the women now giving such valuable service to the community. To date there seems no possibility of the older members of the staff having other than a pittance as a pension. Salaries have improved of late years, but so have expenses, and any savings in the last year or two are not likely to provide adequately for very long after retirement with the gratuities or pensions to which some of the staff are entitled. This should have wider publicity. Sixteen Home Nurses attended 1,535 cases needing 24,446 visits during the year.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

A mutually advantageous liaison has been built up with hospitals serving the area. The liaison is better in some directions than others. On our part we are prepared to try to help patients, Doctors and Hospitals in overcoming the troublesome times of illness.

Vaccination and immunisation continued throughout the year, but once again no true picture of the amount of work carried out by private practitioners was possible until after the close of the year when final agreement on payment of fees was reached.

Tuberculosis care and after care in the Division was

placed in the hands of one visitor as from mid-year, and Mrs. Askham made 822 visits to patients' homes during 1949. The fact that the Tuberculosis Visitor is on the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer, who in turn is also Medical Officer of Health, is of great assistance in forwarding the interests of patients' environmental conditions.

Mental Health Social Work continued to expand and at the end of the year 64 cases were under legal or voluntary supervision. The acquisition of the part-time services of a home teacher in the person of Miss Moxon has proved a boon for many of the patients on our books.

Home Help Service.

The number of cases supplied with a Home Help and the reason for the service was as follows:

(1)	Ill	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
(2)	Lying-in	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
(3)	Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(4)	Aged	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(5)	Children of school age	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Recruitment of persons prepared to do occasional work in this service progressed steadily during the year, and in the winter months especially the amount of service being given approached closely to the maximum authorised for the Division. The ideal of at least one person per parish being available has not yet been reached. Tribute is paid to those parish councils and private individuals who helped the Department to recruit suitable workers. To the Home Helps, too, great credit is due for good work conscientiously carried out.

Ambulance Service.

In the main the Division remains dependent on the Ambulance depots in Bramham, Garforth, Harrogate, and York. Details were given in the Report for 1948, and are unaltered.

Liaison with other Departments.

Mr. Herrington and Miss Barry, being the peripheral representatives of the Welfare and Children's Departments respectively, continued to work under the same roof, and it is a pleasure to record the continued happy relationship which exists. Many are the occasions when discussion and investigation have been carried on side by side to our mutual advantage.

WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer
For the Year 1949.

Council Offices,
WETHERBY,

July, 1950.

To the Rural District Council of Wetherby:
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my fourth Annual Report on the work of the Department for the year ended 31st December, 1949 (Public Cleansing, Water Supply and Financial Details for the year ending 31st March, 1950).

During the year progress has again been made in the development of the services of the Council, including the completion of the Crimble Beck Sewerage Scheme.

Your Council made a decision of considerable importance by deciding to give notice of intention to acquire the undertaking of the Wetherby District Water Company. Water Supply is the one service to the district which is not entirely satisfactory, and it is hoped that this first step will finally result in an efficient water service comparable with the other services administered by the Council.

The only disappointment during the year has been the slowing down, due to various causes, in the new house programme of the Council.

I desire to take this opportunity of again recording my appreciation of the collective and individual assistance and support from the members of the Council, from the members of my Staff and other Officers of the Council and the Officers of the various public authorities with which the work of the Department is associated.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN MARRIOTT,
M.Inst.Mun.E., A.M.T.P.I.,
M.Inst.P.C., M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.
Engineer, Surveyor, and
Chief Sanitary Officer.

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APPENDIX A. Summary of Inspections, including annual statement of Sanitary Inspector.

I. GENERAL.

a. Statistics of District.

AREA, POPULATION, DWELLINGS, SERVICES AND RATEABLE VALUE OF INDIVIDUAL PARISHES, 1949

Township	Estimated extent 1931 acres	Population 1949 (Est.)	Dwellings No. of	Rateable Value £	Penny Rate Product £ s. d.	Services			
						Piped Houses	Water Pop.	Sewerage Houses	Public Cleansing
Angram	1	2	3	5	7	8	8	9	10
Bardsey-cum-Rigton	521	51	70	201	15 0	18	72	8	24 Whole Dist.
Bilton	2752	796	1481	8379	33 9 5	437	1077	421	1054 Served
Boston Spa	2299	357	361	1136	4 6 7	90	317	84	252 do.
Bramham	880	1433	2194	12284	48 6 3	730	2118	724	2091 do.
Clifford	4112	1042	1240	4279	16 11 2	307	1043	317	1069 do.
Collingham (inc. pt. Linton)	742	1110	1344	4100	16 0 2	301	1060	308	1080 do.
Deighton North	2342	884	1361	8916	36 2 1	402	1117	397	1087 do.
Harewood	1475	106	126	568	1 19 9	31	130	28	84 do.
Hutton Wandesley	8154	1161	1190	9158	37 3 0	320	1003	239	156 do.
Kearby-with-Netherby	1233	88	128	649	2 10 0	30	124	29	87 do.
Keswick East	1422	146	167	728	2 18 11	46	161	1	3 do.
Kirk Deighton	1290	503	695	3463	13 19 5	198	580	187	550 do.
Kirkby Overblow	2276	349	609	2236	8 18 9	128	369	129	374 do.
Long Marston	2224	255	338	1533	6 1 11	97	327	65	202 do.
Ribston Little	2850	254	304	1133	4 4 7	80	267	72	247 do.
Rigton	858	158	168	476	1 11 10	32	100	50	154 do.
Scarcroft	3058	318	385	1303	5 2 0	57	142	19	59 do.
Sicklinghall	1073	358	565	3317	13 9 9	140	469	110	373 do.
Spofforth	1495	235	356	1227	4 12 8	66	349	51	153 do.
Thorner	5468	793	897	4462	17 17 10	244	822	217	755 do.
Thorp Arch	2461	1113	1274	6204	24 6 2	368	1273	322	1110 do.
Tockwith	1529	423	506	10353	42 7 3	94	437	77	395 do.
Walton	3188	496	562	4796	18 8 8	149	456	155	472 do.
Weeton	1590	192	195	14091	57 15 11	55	189	52	173 do.
Wetherby (inc. pt. M'waite)	1373	617	816	5023	20 8 4	232	719	217	667 do.
Wighill	2460	2805	4156	26938	113 14 11	991	4112	979	4069 do.
Wilstrop	2247	180	210	1245	4 19 6	58	194	57	185 do.
Wothersome	1030	49	55	141	11 4	9	28	—	— do.
	772	40	36	127	8 10	4	13	9	27 do.
	63724	16317	21790	5869	559 2 0	5714	19068	5324	16952

b. Legislation.

There has again been additional legislation which has considerably affected the work of the Department, and without enumerating the various Acts, Regulations and Orders in detail, it should be mentioned that there has been issued many regulations under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947. The Housing Act, 1949, has now become law and has extended the housing functions of the Council to houses of every type and description instead of merely to "houses of the working classes," and finally a consolidated and amended Act has been passed giving greater powers in respect of Rodent Control. This later Act—the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, will become operative in March, 1950.

The Council have also adopted the provisions of the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act and are now prepared to render financial assistance to persons desirous of acquiring houses for their own occupation.

During the year the Local Government Boundary Commission was abolished and the Ministry of Health has stated that the Government will at a later date consider comprehensive measures for the reform of local government in the light of the reports of the Local Government Boundary Commission that it could not alter boundaries without taking into account alteration of functions.

An Inquiry into the boundaries of your district was held two days prior to the announcement of the abolition of the Commission, and two months' detailed work in the preparation of evidence by the Clerk and Officials of your Council was to all intents and purposes wasted effort.

II. ORGANISATION AND STAFF.

a. Clerical and Technical Staff.

The names and qualifications of the staff will be found at the commencement of the report.

The only development during the year has been the extension for a further period of 12 months of the services of Mr. P. Telford in the capacity of Assistant Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector. In view of the completion of sewerage and water schemes your Council have also agreed to second to the Nidderdale R.D.C. Mr. F. Clarkson, Clerk of Works (Civil Engineering).

The work of the Department has been considerable and

there is no sign of any diminution of duties. A number of matters concerned with the compilation of records, revision of Ordnance Maps, etc., have had to be inevitably deferred, but it is hoped to overcome a little these arrears of work during the ensuing year. In order to assist the staff in the carrying out of surveys and the preparation of drawings, etc., your Council have provided my Department with modern surveying, drawing and plan copying equipment, and this has been of the greatest value.

b. Manual Workers.

Three additional workers have been appointed and men have been appointed to replace others who have terminated their employment. 26. workmen are now employed by the Council.

On the 1st April, 1949, a decision of the Joint Industrial Council resulted in a wage increase for certain grades of workmen. A decision which will apply retrospectively to this date is still awaited for motor drivers and other grades. The delay of the J.I.C. in arriving at a decision is causing a considerable amount of dissatisfaction amongst the workmen concerned.

The incidence of sickness amongst the workmen has been generally small and during the year 1,648 manhours have been lost from all causes.

Labour troubles have been almost non-existent and the only major matter which has arisen has been an application for a five-day week. The Council declined to accede to the request, although it should be emphasised that the matter was very carefully considered and although disappointed, the workmen are satisfied that the decision was not given without careful thought.

New garages have been fully completed and stores and central depot brought into use. It is apparent that some assistance must be given to the foreman in respect of time-keeping and records, and also that one man must be appointed as a storekeeper to ensure adequate control of stores.

III. TOWN PLANNING AND BUILDING BYELAWS.

a. General.

Work under this heading has not been spectacular but there has been an increase in the number of Town Planning Applications for Development and these have involved considerable discussion with the Area Planning Officer.

Very little progress appears to have been made in the general implementation of the Town and Country Planning Act in respect of the preparation of the Development Plan, although one meeting was held of local authorities in the area and your Council later adopted and approved the basic principles formulated by the County Council and explained at the meeting, for the preparation of the development plan for the area. Further detailed discussions in respect of details of the Development Plan which will affect your district are likely to take place during the coming year, meanwhile it is necessary that comprehensive survey data be prepared for the use of the County Planning Department.

I have to record that cordial relations exist with the Area Planning Officer, Mr. J. W. Clarke, and his staff, and the smooth operation of town planning work in your district is largely due to the very full consultation and consideration which is insisted upon by Mr. Clarke and reciprocated by your Council's staff.

b. Development Control.

Development control has involved the keeping of the Statutory Town Planning Register and an increasing amount of work is involved in dealing with the requests accompanying Land Charge applications asking for information as to the town planning restrictions applying to the properties concerned; extracts from the Town Planning Register are also being increasingly supplied.

I have previously mentioned that the work of revision of ordnance sheets is in arrear. This matter is of importance in view of the statutory duty to keep an accurate up-to-date map index for the Town Planning Register and also the keeping of correct land charge maps. Towards the close of the year ordnance sheets were purchased to enable two complete sets of maps to be maintained and the revision of these maps must be undertaken at an early date in order to enable the maximum use to be made of them.

I append tables giving details of development applications received during the year and the decisions made thereon. In only one case was a dispute with the Area Planning Officer referred to the County References Sub-Committee. This application was in respect of the reconditioning and conversion of two cottages into one house at East Keswick. The recommendation of the Area Planning Officer was a refusal, in view of the possible compensation which would have to be made by the

Highway Authority at a later date when highway improvements are carried out. The County References Sub-Committee decided to grant a temporary permission for 15 years, and whilst your Council were not altogether satisfied with the decision, the fairness of the hearing and the manner in which impartial consideration was given impressed the members of the Council who appeared before the Committee.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS.

		Construction.	Change of Use of land & buildings.
Brought forward from 1948	...	7	2
Received during 1949	... ..	284	19
		291	21
Approval	... ..	129	11
Conditional Approval	... ..	111	8
Approval subject to later submission of details	... ..	11	—
Temporary Buildings	... ..	23	2
Application Postponed	... ..	—	—
„ Referred back	... ..	—	—
„ Refused	... ..	6	—
„ Outstanding	... ..	11	—
„ Withdrawn	... ..	—	—
		291	21

Summary.

Construction	... ..	291
Change of Use	... ..	21
		312

c. Wetherby Industrial Area.

I regret to have to report that no tangible progress has been made in the acquisition and development of the Wetherby Industrial Area, notwithstanding that a formal application was submitted some months ago to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning for permission to purchase and develop 8 acres of the site.

d. **Miscellaneous.**

I have to direct the Council's attention to two matters which will require their consideration at an early date:—

- i. **Tree Preservation Orders.** It should be explained that the making of Tree Preservation Orders does not in itself prevent the felling of timber but it does require the Council's permission to be first obtained, and in view of the beauty of the district no undue time should be lost in taking action under this heading.
- ii. **Control of Advertisements.** In 1951 the Council will be in a position to deal with all advertisements which were in existence prior to the Control of Advertisements Regulations becoming effective, and before 1951 it is important that a complete schedule of offensive advertisements should be prepared.

e. **Building Byelaws.**

Independent consideration of plans for compliance with the Building Byelaws continues and the following are details of work under this heading:—

Plans Submitted Under Building Byelaws.						
Received 1949	...	...	...	...	...	335
Brought forward from 1948	...	...	...	...	...	11
						346
Plans approved	...	...	...	...	...	245
Plans conditionally approved	...	...	...	...	...	95
Plans refused	...	...	...	...	...	6
Plans withdrawn	...	...	...	...	...	—
						346

The Minister of Health has again extended the operation of the Building Byelaws until the end of 1950, and although it is possible that the Byelaws may again be extended after that date it is obvious that reconsideration of the Building Byelaws will become necessary before very long.

The work of building inspection proceeds unobtrusively, but it is important that the Council should know of the amount of work under this heading. During the year 1,302 inspections have been made of building work involved in new buildings and alterations. This is apart from the inspection of Council Houses in course of erection.

IV. HOUSING.

a. Housing Progress.

I regret to have to place on record what the Council already know, that housing progress has slowed down considerably during the year. This is due to a variety of circumstances, and whilst I am anxious that progress shall be accelerated, I think it only fair that the Council should appreciate that the present position is very largely the outcome of rapid progress since 1945. For very many years it has been apparent that allowing for work in respect of repairs, maintenance, agricultural and commercial building, that the building resources of the district are such as to only maintain the erection of an average of 100 new houses per annum. Any increase in this number necessitates the importation of labour from the surrounding urban areas. Your Council's housing programme has for the most part been concentrated in the hands of three principal contractors. One of these was a firm from Derbyshire who were apparently relying on the availability of labour and this and their slow progress was an indication that there was little surplus labour. The other two contractors had at one period under contract far more houses than they could reasonably be expected to complete expeditiously. A few contracts were let as long as three years prior to being completed, and this year has been one of catching up on the overweighting of local labour. 202 houses were completed, but the number under construction at the year end is comparatively small.

This local time lag has unfortunately coincided with a Government decision to curtail capital expenditure and reduce the volume of house building, together with an effort to administratively reduce housing costs. As a result the Council is experiencing increasing difficulty in obtaining tenders or negotiating prices which come within the ceiling of the Ministry of Health.

It has also been necessary to adopt, both for the Council's financial and administrative control, and at the Ministry of Health, a more rigid policy in respect of the submission of plans and tenders to the Ministry of Health. In the past it was possible to short-circuit a number of procedural stages, but it now is becoming apparent that the quickest way of proceeding is by adherence to the rules. In the long run when considerations of final accounts and clearing up of contracts arises, following rules in the early stages facilitates progress.

The following tables give details of:—

Table I. Housing Progress at 31st December, 1949.

Table II. Analytical Statement of Houses under Erection at the end of the Year.

Table III. Details of the Total Housing Progress of the Council since the end of the War.

In considering these Tables it should be noted that 71 houses which were allocated in 1948 and 1949 are not yet under contract.

The Government Policy in respect of the issue of licences for the erection of houses by private enterprise continues, and during the year only 13 new house licences have been issued.

One of the questions often asked by the Council is “ why do houses take so long to build? ” and although I have indicated one of the principal local reasons an effort has been made by a number of authorities to answer this generally.

Here are some of the reasons:—

- (1) Shortages of materials, namely, timber and cement.
- (2) The hold-up by controls and licences.
- (3) Fluctuations of Government policy.
- (4) Lack of incentives to workers who with full employment do not fear disciplinary measures.
- (5) Lack of pre-planning of site works.
- (6) Concentration on better houses (costing more) rather than cheaper homes quickly.

In this connection I am of opinion that the Council must inevitably give serious consideration to the present trend of housing costs as reflected in the weekly rents charged to tenants and ponder the question of whether the houses are generally too costly for the tenants. It is the experience of many local authorities throughout the country that tenants are anxious to change from the better-equipped post-war houses to pre-war houses in view of the differences of rents which operate in many districts. It has been observed in your district that many tenants are taking spare-time work and also a high proportion of the wives of tenants on many estates are taking part-time or full-time work, and there has been a number of quick changes of tenants of the new houses, together with refusals of tenancy in other cases by reason of the rent. Another feature of new houses is the higher cost of furnishing, decorating and heating.

TABLE I

HOUSE CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1949.

	COMPLETED				UNDER CONSTRUCTION				TENDER OR LICENCE				TOTAL
	Private		Council		Private		Council		Private		Council		
	Trad.	Convers.	Trad.	Convers.	Trad.	Convers.	Trad.	Convers.	Trad.	Convers.	Trad.	Convers.	
Angram	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Bardsey	1	—	8	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	20
Bilton	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Boston Spa	—	2	—	—	17†*	—	—	—	—	19†*	—	3	36
Bramham	1	2	2	8	—	—	12	2	—	—	—	3	24
Clifford	—	—	—	2	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	2	10
Collingham	3	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	4
Deighton North	—	—	—	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	6
Harewood	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Hutton Wandesley	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Kirkby Overblow	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10
East Keswick	—	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
Kearby	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Kirk Deighton	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Long Marston	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
North Rington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	10
Ribston Little	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sicklinghall	—	2	—	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	2	12
Spofforth	2	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	9	2
Scarcroft	—	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	4
Thornor	—	3	2	8	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	3	16
Thorp Arch	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	2
Tockwith	—	1**	1**	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	7
Walton	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Weeton	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Wetherby	4	2	28	22	—	—	4	4	—	—	2	10	58
Wighill	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Wothersome	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	18	21	41	144	17†*	9	12	18	3	63	19†*	77	283
	39			202			21		7		346		

* Conversion of Service huts to temporary bungalows.

† Conversion of mansion to flats.

** War damaged house.

TABLE II.

ANALYTICAL STATEMENT OF HOUSES UNDER
ERECTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1949.

PARISH.		Contract not Started	Started	D.P.C. Level	Eaves Level	Roofed	Plastered	TOTAL
Traditional								
Thorner ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Bramham ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
North Rigton ...	...	—	2	4	2	2	—	10
Thorp Arch ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Weardley ...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Wike ...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
		4	2	4	2	2	6	20
Airey								
Bramham ...	...	—	—	—	—	10	2	12
Clifford ...	...	—	—	—	—	8	—	8
Scarcroft ...	...	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Sicklinghall ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Thorner ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Wetherby ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
		—	—	—	—	20	20	40
Conversions								
Boston Spa ...	Flats							8
	Bungalows							12
Tockwith ...	Police House							1
TOTAL ...		4	2	4	2	22	26	81

TABLE III.

DETAILED HOUSING PROGRESS SINCE END OF WAR.

Completed since end of the War

Private	New houses—Traditional	...	...	...	74	
	do. —Prefabricated	...	...	...	2	
	Conversions	...	...	...	80	
						156
Council	New houses—Traditional	...	...	...	145	
	do. —Prefabricated	...	...	...	198	
	Conversions	...	...	...	40	
						383
	Total	...	...	...		539
Demolished or Closed	...	...	...	...		30
						509

In hand at Year End

Private—All types	...	...	...	...	24	
Council—All types	...	...	...	...	81	
						105

Since V.J. Day, a new house has been provided for each ten houses existing at that date, or allowing for demolition, one in 10.75 houses.

b. Acquisition and Preparation of Sites.

There has been a reduction in the amount of work carried out under this heading, but discussions with the Consultant Architects and the Area Planning Officer relative to new sites, lay-out and provision of services has involved 540 visits surveys, meetings and inspections. Preliminary steps for the acquisition of sites at Kirk Deighton, Spofforth, Thorp Arch, and Weeton were taken and in the case of Harewood your Council decided, after lengthy negotiations in respect of alternative sites, to proceed with the acquisition of an area of land in the centre of the village, together with a number of cottages thereon, in order to provide a housing scheme worthy of the village and at the same time carry into effect some desirable re-development. It is hoped that progress will be made in the acquisition of these sites during the ensuing year.

c. Finance.

The cost of construction of houses has shown slight upward trends and in my opinion there is no hope at the moment of any decline in the high cost of building. At the 31st March, 1949, the capital assets of your Council in respect of houses totalled £904,120, and I estimate that present commitments of the Council in respect of housing not yet shown in the capital cost account involve a further £150,000. During the year £156,561 was added to the capital assets of the Council in respect of housing.

The Council now own 1,051 houses, 14 permanent flats, 24 temporary bungalows, and 5 miscellaneous dwellings, making a total of 1,094 occupied houses, or 18.2 per cent. of the total number of dwellings in the district. The Council have continued to give priority in the letting of houses to agricultural workers, but this policy is becoming more difficult to enforce.

Rents received for the year 1949/50 amount to £31,220 4s. 2d., of which only £24 7s. 2d. was irrecoverable.

Repayment 1949/50—Principal		£8,325	14	5
		Interest	£24,619	2 8
Grants received—M. of Health		£13,062	5	0
„ „ W.R.C.C. ...		£232	10	0

The balance on the Housing Revenue Account at the year end was £29,318 4s. 9d.

d. Council House Maintenance.

In April, 1949, your Council decided to transfer to the Department, pro tem, the responsibility for repairs and maintenance of Council Houses, and an effort was made during the summer and autumn of 1949 to ascertain the overall condition of Council houses. A survey of condition was carried out at Weeton, Thorner, Bramham, and North Rigton, and specimen houses were inspected in other parishes. As a result of this it became increasingly apparent that a tremendous amount of leeway must be made up on repairs to Council houses, and whilst every endeavour was made to proceed with this survey, the incidence of other pressing duties prevented this being completed.

As a result of the experience gained, I have come to the conclusion that in order to put your houses into the condition you desire at the earliest possible date, some officer must make this his principal duty, and I am in agreement, in general, with the other officers of the Council, that the appointment of a housing manager will ultimately be necessary. The day to day demands on time in respect of repairs is considerable, and it

has only been by the employment of the Clerk of Works to a considerable extent on this work that any progress has been made.

One of the long-standing and most obvious defects which had to be dealt with was that of the repair of footpaths, and accordingly I instructed the Assistant Surveyor on this work, and as a result, commencing with the parish of Wetherby, an effort has been made to deal with the whole of the defective footpaths on the Council's housing estates.

A further matter in connection with the repair and maintenance is the difficulty of ensuring the proper remedying of defects which develop in the new houses during the six months retention period for which repairs the contractor is responsible, and in view of the policy of your Council to put tenants into houses at the earliest possible date, many problems have arisen.

There has been much complaint from tenants of the new houses regarding the absence of garden fences and gates, but a start has been made and it is hoped to complete the provision of gates and fences by the middle of the ensuing year.

The position of the Housing Repair and Maintenance Fund at the year end was as follows:—

Expenditure during the year	...	...	£7,299	0	5
Balance carried forward	...	...	£16,662	14	2

During the year you decided to agree to my recommendation to increase the repair allocation to £10 per house to meet the long-deferred repairs and to meet increased costs.

The following table gives details of the Housing Repair and Maintenance Account for the last five years:—

			Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Year to 31st March, 1946	...	3,729	3,878	12,662	
„ „ 1947	...	3,905	5,264	11,303	
„ „ 1948	...	4,224	7,662	7,865	
„ „ 1949	...	9,886	5,313	12,388	
„ „ 1950	...	11,573	7,299	16,662	

Tree Planting.

Considerable work was involved in the preparation of schemes for planting of the various housing estates, and in this connection expert advice was obtained. In view of the cost of the proposals and the lateness of the season your Council decided to defer consideration until the ensuing year.

e. Building Licensing.

Building licensing during 1949 in respect of housing works at a cost of more than £100 involved the issue of 96

licenses at a total value of £30,331. Nine licenses were subsequently withdrawn, totalling £4,184, leaving a net issue of 87 licenses at a total cost of £26,147. In addition, 13 new house licenses, totalling £23,621, were issued. One of these licenses subsequently lapsed at a cost of £2,350, giving a net issue in respect of new houses of 12 licenses at a total cost of £22,371. The total amount of licenses issued, therefore, during the year was £52,118, which compares with a total of £64,504 for the previous year. Towards the close of the year I was informed by the Ministry of Health that the Council had considerably exceeded the official quota, in that the total value of licenses issued was considerably in excess of the amount for the district. A subsequent circular from the Ministry required that the volume of licenses to be issued during the ensuing year must not exceed four-fifths of the total issued in 1949, and therefore, it will be necessary for the Council, in the coming year, to more closely scrutinise applications for licenses and work within the total quota for the year.

f. Rural Housing Survey.

The Rural Housing Survey is almost complete and will be completed at an early date in 1950, after which date the process of analysing and compiling a report on the survey will be commenced. In view of the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, the scope of the survey has been widened, as all references to working classes in the Housing Act, 1936, have now been deleted, and as a result the total number of houses to be included in the Survey is increased from 4,600 to 5,996. I do not, however, anticipate that it will be necessary to make a detailed inspection of the additional houses, as many of these are either houses of a special type or are houses which have been erected within the last 30 years, but it may be found that this addition to the Survey may involve some additional work. I give the following information as an interim and provisional report:—

Analysis of Houses Inspected.

Special types	...	...	...	...	...	269
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	1,011
Minor defects	...	...	...	...	...	1,221
Require reconditioning	...	...	...	...	...	1,876
Unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	474
						4,851

g. **Existing Houses.**

The work of repair and reconditioning of existing houses becomes increasingly difficult, particularly in view of the limited financial resources of many property owners, and there is a steady deterioration in the condition of many houses in the district. Unless this downward trend is arrested the problem of the Council in the coming years in respect of unfitness of houses will be greatly accentuated. In many of the worst cases the only remedy is demolition, as the condition of the houses is generally such that the Statutory Powers under the Public Health Act are insufficient to render the houses reasonably fit, and action under the repair section of the Housing Act, 1936, is impossible in view of the present cost of repairs and the fixed rent income the Council cannot maintain that the repairs could be carried out at a reasonable cost; the only alternative, therefore, to action under the repair sections, is to take action under the demolition sections of the Housing Act, leaving it to the owners to make such offer for the reconditioning of the houses as they feel should properly be made. I have to reiterate what I said a year ago that the problems which confront your officers in respect of seriously unfit houses are:—

- a. In view of the present housing shortage only in the most extreme cases is it prudent to require demolition.
- b. Re-occupation of unfit houses after the previous tenant has been re-housed by the Council only maintains the overall unsatisfactory position of housing.
- c. The re-occupation of unfit houses, although not mitigating the unsatisfactory position of housing in general, does in many cases provide a solution to many social and domestic problems created by living with parents or in lodging.

I have, however, to point out to the Council that notwithstanding these considerations the Council have a duty of taking action when housing conditions become prejudicial to health, and it will be necessary in the ensuing year to make representations to your Council in respect of a number of unfit houses on which action cannot be much longer delayed and this work will, in my opinion, become increasingly frequent in the ensuing years.

During the year it has been possible to secure the reconditioning of 20 houses resulting in the up-grading of 11 of these from the demolition to the satisfactory class. This compares with 30 houses in the previous year, and the reduction is a reflection of a general restriction of money available for the

purpose and the difficulty of obtaining adequate building licenses for the work.

In addition to this 421 houses had repairs carried out under the provisions of the Public Health Acts, two houses have been demolished voluntarily and five converted to other use. Action was taken during the year in respect of four houses, under the provisions of the demolition sections of the Housing Act, and in each case an offer was made by the owners to convert two houses into one, i.e., making two houses instead of four.

h. Overcrowding.

Numerous inspections have been made of alleged overcrowding, mainly to assist the House Tenancy Committee in their work of selection of tenants for Council houses. Only three cases of Statutory overcrowding have been discovered and two of these have been abated, leaving only one outstanding case of Statutory overcrowding on the register at the year end.

V. DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

a. HOUSE DRAINAGE & EARTH CLOSET CONVERSION.

A considerable volume of work has again been carried out in connection with the drainage of new houses, earth closet conversions and in connection with new sewerage schemes.

Details of work are as follows:—

Sewer connections—new houses	237
Sewer connections—existing houses	221
Houses with blocked drains	27
Existing houses completely re-drained	26
Houses with defective drains—replacement drains and drainage to earth closet convers.	143
Defective septic tanks and cesspools	21
New septic tanks	13
Drainage removed from streams	35
	723
Earth closets converted to water closets	71
Additional water closets	28
	99

Forty-two of the foregoing conversions have been as a result of statutory notices at a cost to the Council of £433 18s. 10d., or an average of £10 6s. 9d. per convenience.

Outstanding statutory notices provide for the conversion of 16 earth closets and for the provision of one additional closet. In addition, voluntary offers of conversion in 26 cases has resulted in the Council promising grants for work not yet executed of £281 17s. 11d. At the year end the Council was carrying out work on behalf of owners in 16 cases, and during the year 18 earth closets have been similarly completed on behalf of owners by the Council. Although it has not been possible to submit comprehensive conversion schemes for earth closet conversion to your Council during the current year, it has been possible to deal with one parish—Little Ribston—almost completely on a voluntary basis, but an effort will be made in 1950 to submit a comprehensive conversion scheme for the villages of Long Marston, Hutton Wandesley, North Deighton, Tockwith, Bilton, and Bickerton.

I regret that until a more adequate supply of water is available for the parishes of Sicklinghall and Spofforth that similar action in this case must be deferred.

34 sanitary conveniences have been repaired and work on five further conveniences was in progress at the year end.

4 factories had conveniences provided and one factory had a defective convenience repaired in accordance with the provisions of the Factories Act, 1947.

b. DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL—EXISTING.

i. **Sewers.** Large extensions of sewers have again been made in respect of the new housing estates and generally, as I have previously reported, the condition of your sewers is good.

Unobtrusively, I have continued, so far as labour commitments allow, the regular inspection of sewers, and this has again assisted in keeping to a minimum, the number of blockages of sewers during the year.

22 blocked sewers were dealt with and 7 defective sections of sewer repaired. At Bramham, however, there is a long section of sewer admitting a very large quantity of infiltration water and your Council have given instructions to the Consultant Engineer to carry out the work of re-laying this sewer as part of the Thorp Arch and District Sewerage Scheme.

A similar section of sewer exists at Thorp Arch on which similar action is to be anticipated.

ii. **Sewage Disposal.** 5,073 houses are now connected to your public sewers representing 84.6% of the total houses in your district. In addition 235 houses have private sewerage schemes, thus giving a total of 88.5% of the total houses in the district having a water carriage system of sanitation. The Council are now fully aware of the condition of the older sewage works, particularly at Wetherby, where the flow to the works is considerably in excess of the design of the works; at Bramham and Clifford where insufficient land is available for proper treatment, at Weeton and at Thorner where works are undersized and in poor repair.

Sludge disposal is still a very acute problem and increasing use is having to be made of the Council's transport and labour for the removal of sludge from the works.

298 inspections of sewage works have been carried out during the year by myself and my technical staff, supplementing the constant visits by the General Foreman.

iii. **Financial Statement.**

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	INCOME	£	s.	d.
Wages	1,912	19	10	Government			
Loan Charges:				Grants for			
Principal ...	3,100	12	0	year	1,414	14	4
Interest ...	2,296	19	6	Sundry Income	249	5	10
Repairs, main-				General Rate			
tenance and				Fund Contri-			
operational				bution ...	6,958	6	7
expenses ...	1,311	15	3				
	<u>£8,622</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>		<u>£8,622</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>

It will be observed that the total expenditure is less than in the previous year, notwithstanding that the Crimble Beck Sewerage Works is now complete. Analysis of the Financial Statement shows that the saving is in respect of wages and general maintenance costs as loan charges are higher than in the previous year. This saving has only been made by constant vigilance, the avoidance of undue expenditure and the use to the utmost of mobile labour. The abolition of the Spofforth Sewage Works has resulted in a considerable saving of labour and fuel as every drop of sewage reaching these works had to be pumped to the filters.

c. SEWAGE DISPOSAL—PROPOSED.

The Council have made considerable progress during the year and it must be a source of satisfaction to that Council that schemes which have been under consideration for so many years are now becoming completed. The position, briefly, is as follows:—

i. **Angram.** The Ministry have approved the Angram scheme for pumping of sewage to the Long Marston and Hutton Wandesley Sewage Works and have awarded the starting date of the 31st March, 1950. The Council are now in a position to invite tenders for this scheme.

ii. **Crimple Beck Sewerage Scheme.** This scheme was completed in July, 1949, the works being officially opened by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, L. R. Burrell, Esq., on 19th July, 1949.

The Institute of Sewage Purification holding their summer conference in Harrogate, arranged with the consent of your Council for an official visit to the Crimble Beck Sewage Works, and the fact that the only other official visits were to the sewage works of Harrogate Corporation and those of Bradford Corporation is an indication of the interest shown outside your District to development taking place within the district. Many 'bus loads of visitors arrived at the Works and all were impressed with the clean-cut design of the Works.

At a later date the Yorkshire District of the Institute of Municipal Engineers, by kind permission of your Council, held a sessional meeting in your Council Chamber and earlier visited the Crimble Beck Sewage Works, and again congratulations were extended to the Council on this achievement.

iii. **Central Area Scheme.** On the 6th December, 1949, the Ministry of Health held a public inquiry in respect of this scheme, the Inspector being M. W. Summers, Esq., A.M.I.C.E. This scheme involves the use of the sewage disposal works at the Thorp Arch R.O.F. and will enable the sewage at present being taken to Thorner, Bramham, Boston Spa, Thorp Arch, and Wighill Works to be diverted to the Thorp Arch Works and the four sewage works concerned abolished. It will also be possible to sewer the parish of Walton. In addition sewage in excess of the capacity of the Wetherby Sewage Works will be pumped to the Ordnance Factory Works and therefore the Thorp Arch Works will in effect provide a linking up of sewerage extending over 14 parishes. The area concerned covers 41% of the total area of the District, 72% of the total

population of the district and all the parishes where residential development has been active. For practical purposes the area can be described as being the urban core of the Rural District, and the scheme will make adequate provision for future development in the district.

The existing premises which can be served by the scheme amount to 4,313, and the existing population 13,773, plus 1,110 non-civilian population. It is noteworthy that of the houses served by the scheme 97.5% drain to public sewers, 97% have water closets, 68.2% have baths, 99% have a public water supply.

The Ministry's decision on this scheme is awaited.

iv. **Eastern Area Scheme.** The Scheme for Long Marston and Hutton Wandesley has been completed, but at the North End of Long Marston difficulty has arisen in respect of farm drainage which is not and cannot at present be connected to the sewers. This matter must receive the early attention of your Council.

v. **Tockwith.** Tockwith, Bilton and Bickerton Scheme is under construction and almost completed by the year end.

vi. **Western Area Scheme.** This scheme, which was the subject of an inquiry in 1947, has again been under discussion with the Ministry of Health, the West Riding County Council and the Member of Parliament for this Division, during the whole of 1949, and although the Member of Parliament has interceded personally with the Minister of Health, the Minister is not prepared to agree to a combined scheme for the parishes of Kirkby Overblow, Kearby, North Rigton, Weeton, and Harewood, and will only allow a modification by splitting the scheme into two parts, taking North Rigton and Weeton into an enlargement of the sewage works at Weeton and the remainder of the parishes into a new sewage disposal works at Kearby.

The matter is still under consideration at the year end.

d. **GENERAL.**

During the year the cesspit emptier ordered in 1948 was delivered and put into use, and this service has been received with considerable satisfaction by the owners and occupiers of property which drains to septic tanks, cesspools and private sewage disposal works. Towards the year end the first cleaning out of all the cesspools in the district was approaching completion.

I should bring to the attention of the Council certain areas where consideration should be given to the extension of sewers at an early date. These are:

Blackmoor area of Scarcroft.

Linton Common, Linton.

Compton Lane, Collingham.

Victoria Place, Clifford.

In view of the Ministry decision that the hamlets of Weardley and Stanks must be deleted from the Western Area Scheme, consideration must also be given to the sewerage of these places.

VI. WATER SUPPLY (to 31-3-50).

a. PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

42 samples of water were taken for analysis from private supplies, 15 of these were unsatisfactory and 6 were doubtful.

The unsatisfactory and doubtful samples affected 8 supplies. It is pleasing to report that the list of unabated unsatisfactory water supplies has for the first time for many years shown a reduction and now stands at 133 compared with 154 at the end of 1948. The reduction is of course explained by the commencement of connections to the North Rigton supply scheme and to the completion of water schemes at Wilstrop, Long Marston and Wighill.

In all, 79 houses have been supplied during the year with satisfactory water supplies, and of these 24 have been as a result of Statutory Notices. It has been possible during the year to also abolish supplies from 12 standpipes by laying water into the houses.

b. PUBLIC SUPPLIES—EXISTING.

All the public supplies of the district are kept under constant supervision and this work has necessitated 241 visits and inspections. 73 water samples have been collected and submitted for bacteriological examination, 61 being satisfactory, 3 doubtful, 9 unfit, 7 samples have been submitted for chemical examination and 2 were unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples relate to supplies at Harewood and involve much work tracing the source of contamination, but at the year end the supplies were all satisfactory. There are now 5,706 houses in the district with satisfactory piped water supplies from public or private sources. 5,543 of these houses are sup-

plied from public water mains, this gives 95% with piped water supplies and 92.2% from public mains.

- i. **Wetherby R.D.C.—Eastern Area Scheme.** This scheme continues to give excellent service. During the year your Council decided, in view of certain difficulties in respect of the bulk supply of water from the Ministry of Supply to the parish of Angram, to prepare a scheme extending the Eastern Area supply to Angram, and this was under preparation at the year end. The water main extensions to the parish of Wilstrop and to certain outlying farms in the parishes of Long Marston and Wighill have been completed.
- ii. **Wetherby R.D.C.—Sicklinghall, Spofforth and Kearby Supply.** The water levels of this scheme have further receded, and at the year end the scheme was operating at a working water level maintained only by complete closure of the delivery valve to the pumps and the passage of water from the pump to the reservoir via a small 5/16in. diameter hole in the valve plate. The maximum discharge from the two pumps does not exceed 2,000 gallons per hour. This appears to be the maximum capacity of the boreholes. The maintenance of the supply to the three villages concerned has only been done by constant vigilance and uneconomic expenditure of labour, and this can be instanced by the fact that the slightest defect of water main or service pipe results in a lowering of the reservoir which may take several weeks to recover. Your Water Committee have considered this matter monthly, and I have again to emphasise that any increase in consumption by erection of new houses, additional farm supplies, or otherwise, will make it impossible to continue this supply. The Order under Section 16 of the Water Act, 1945, has been maintained in operation during the whole of the year and was re-emphasised by a personal appeal to consumers from the Chairman of the Water Committee. This letter resulted in a very satisfactory reduction in the quantity of water used, and I am satisfied that generally the consumers are fully alive to the precarious position of this supply.

In order to avoid extra water consumption your Council have decided not to proceed with the comprehensive conversion of earth closets to water closets as was intended.

Much time was devoted by your Committee to consider means of augmenting the supply, and it was found that without considerable expenditure of money in extending the main from the centre of Harrogate, to Spofforth, that Harrogate Corporation could not materially or readily assist in overcoming this position. Accordingly your Council reluctantly decided to investigate the possibility of sinking a new borehole and the advice of the Geological Survey was sought. The information given by the Geological Survey indicated very promising possibilities of a borehole sunk near Ingbarrow Farm between Wetherby and Spofforth, and this borehole, to be known as the Stockeld borehole, was adopted as a scheme by the Council and submitted to the Ministry of Health in November. In January a Deputation to the Ministry of Health discussed this scheme in more detail, but at the 31st March, 1950, no apparent progress had been made, and I am of opinion that the undue delay of the Ministry of Health in dealing with this matter may result in the Council being unable to maintain the supply towards the end of 1950. In order to prepare for such an eventuality materials have been laid in stock for the erection of street standpipes, and should the eventuality arise it will be necessary to shut off all individual house connections and require consumers to carry their water from standpipes. Every effort will be made to avoid this.

- iii. **Wetherby R.D.C.—Progress.** During the year 103 extra houses have been supplied with water from the Council's schemes and 46 additional supplies by meter have been connected to your water mains. The extensions at Wilstrop, Wighill and Long Marston have resulted in all the premises capable of being supplied being connected (except in two cases where statutory notices have been issued). In North Rigton, although the scheme is not yet complete, 27 houses have been connected and six supplies afforded by meter. The North Rigton Council house supply has been superseded by the new supply.
- iv. **Wetherby R.D.C.—Financial Report.** Financial details for the year ending 31st March are as follows:—

EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.
Wages	...	474	2	1
Vehicles	...	26	1	6
Repairs, Maintenance and Operational Expenses	...	1744	5	8
Loan Charges:				
Principal	...	849	11	6
Interest	...	715	4	7
		£3809	5	4
INCOME		£	s.	d.
Water Charges	...	2473	14	6
Sundry Debtors	...	49	8	7
Deficiency (borne by Rate Fund)	...	1286	2	3
		£3809	5	4

The capital assets of the Council in respect of water supply were at 31st March, 1950, £46,677 (added during the year £11,650 5s. 7d.)

- v. **Wetherby District Water Company.** As I will report in greater detail at a later stage, the year has been a momentous one in respect of this undertaking, but purely from an operational point of view there have been successive complaints during the year regarding inadequacy of pressure, and dirty water, particularly at Wetherby, Bramham, Hope Hall, and in December there was a general shortage of water in the Wetherby and Linton areas.
- vi. **Lascelles Estate Company.** The Council agreed to guarantee the expenditure of Leeds Corporation in affording a supply of water to the former parishes of Harewood and Dunkeswick, which are in the Leeds Statutory Area, but at the year end no apparent progress towards the effective realisation of this scheme has been made. The existing supplies at Harewood, Stanks and North Park, Harewood, are each subject to intermittent contamination, and regular analysis of these supplies is necessary. On a number of occasions during the year the supplies were unsatisfactory, but by active co-operation from the Estate Company it is possible to report that at the year end the supplies were all satisfactory.
- vii. **Leeds Corporation**
viii. **Harrogate Corporation**
ix. **Ministry of Supply**
- } These supplies have been satisfactory during the year.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Source of Water Supply and Supplier	Parish	Houses in area of supply	Houses Supplied at 31/12/49	Estimated Popul. supplied at 31/12/49	Metered Supplies
Wetherby District Water Company. Boreholes at Bard- sey, Scarcroft and East Keswick.	Bardsey	442	435	1066	
	*Boston Spa	578	577	1617	
	Bramham	329	287	1042	
	Clifford	305	301	1048	
	Collingham	407	392	1115	
	Deighton (North) ...	32	29	115	
	*Harewood (Brandon)	13	12	39	
	Keswick East	207	191	583	
	Kirk Deighton	141	111	499	
	Ribston Little	53	31	130	
	Scarcroft	143	140	503	
	*Spofforth	1	1	4	
	Thorner	376	365	1210	
	*Thorp Arch	72	69	357	
	*Walton	55	53	186	
	*Wetherby	992	986	3952	
	Wothersome	15	—	—	
		4161	3980	13466	311
Wetherby R.D.C. Boreholes at Sick- linghall (3), Long Marston (2), North Rigton (1) †. Bulk supply from Leeds Corporation to Wike (Harewood).	Angram	18	18	72	
	Bilton	103	89	313	
	*Hutton Wandesley ...	30	27	118	
	*Harewood (Wike) ...	28	25	79	
	Kearby	48	45	156	
	*Long Marston	86	79	264	
	*Rigton	102	27	86	
	Sicklinghall	75	53	187	
	*Spofforth	237	204	737	
	Tockwith	184	141	456	
	*Wighill	58	57	186	
	Wilstrop	13	9	27	
		982	774	2681	192
Leeds Corporation. Upland surface water.	*North Rigton (part)	7	7	24	
	*Harewood (Wigton and Dunkeswick)	93	77	243	
	Weeton	232	232	870	
		332	316	1137	7
Lascelles Estate Company Limited. Spring supply at Hollin Hall, Stanks and North Park, Harewood.	*Harewood (Hare- wood, Dunkeswick and Weardley ...	214	179	565	

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES—Continued.

Source of Water Supply and Supplier	Parish	Houses in area of supply	Houses Supplied 31/12/49	Estimated Popul. supplied at 31/12/49	Metered Supplies
Harrogate Corpora- tion. Upland sur- face water.	Kirkby Overblow ...	102	91	310	
	*Spofforth	16	16	56	
	*North Rigton	3	3	9	
		121	110	375	11
Ministry of Supply (R.O.F.) Boreholes.	*Boston Spa	153	153	450	
	*Hutton Wandesley ...	1	1	4	
	*Thorp Arch	25	25	83	
	*Long Marston	1	1	3	
	*Walton	2	2	6	
	*Wetherby	3	3	7	
	*Wighill	1	1	4	
		186	186	557	6
ALL UNDERTAKERS—WHOLE DISTRICT		5996	5545	18781	527
	Boston Spa	731	730	2118	
	Harewood	348	294	926	
	Hutton Wandesley ...	31	28	121	
	Thorp Arch	97	94	437	
	Spofforth	254	221	797	
	Rigton	112	37	118	
	Wighill	59	58	184	
	Long Marston	87	80	267	
	Walton	57	55	189	
	**Wetherby	995	989	4103	

** Two large Naval Establishments are supplied by the Ministry of Supply in this parish.

† One additional house and farm supplied in Nidderdale R.D.C. area.

* More than one public supply.

c. DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

i. North Rigton Water Scheme.

This scheme under construction is approximately 75% completed and connections are now being made to the mains.

ii. Wilstrop and Wighill Schemes.

Have been completed.

iii. Harewood and Dunkeswick Scheme.

Leeds Corporation were guaranteed their expenditure in accordance with the provisions of the Water Act, by your Council, but no positive steps have been made to carry out the scheme.

iv. Spofforth Water Mains Extension.

The work on the construction of this scheme was commenced late in March, 1950, and should be completed at an early date.

v. Wothersome.

The Wetherby District Water Company replies in respect of the Wothersome scheme were unsatisfactory to the Council and as a result of the action the Council have taken in respect of the Water Company, your Council gave instructions for the preparation and submission to the Ministry of Health for approval of a scheme of water main extension to the parish of Wothersome and also outlying properties in adjacent parishes.

d. ACQUISITION OF WETHERBY DISTRICT WATER COMPANY.

As a result of the difficulty of securing a satisfactory solution to the extension of water mains to the Wothersome area, and in view of the very many complaints from consumers in the district, and in particular from the Parish Council of Bardsey, your Council considered at length the desirability of the acquisition of the Wetherby District Water Company in accordance with the terms of acquisition contained in the Wetherby District Water Act, 1899.

The Ministry of Health indicated their approval to the suggested action of the Council in the compulsory acquisition of the Undertaking of the Water Company and accordingly on the 1st September, 1949, your Council served notice on the Water Company of their intentions to acquire the undertaking on the 1st April, 1950.

As a result of this decision a great deal of Committee work was involved in making arrangements for the transfer and briefly the following steps were taken.

1. Mr. J. A. Rodwell, M.I.C.E., of Durham, was appointed as Specialist Engineer Consultant to negotiate the compensation terms on behalf of the Council, and Mr. E. Duncan Taylor was appointed as financial expert for the same purpose.

2. The Council's organisation for the management of the Undertaking was finally decided as follows:—

- a. The undertaking of the Water Company to be merged with the District Council's Water Undertaking.
- b. The Clerk of the Council to be responsible for the administrative control of the joint undertaking. The Financial Officer to be responsible for financial matters in respect of the undertaking, including the collection of water charges. As Engineer and Surveyor

of the Council I am responsible for the technical management of the undertaking, and in order to facilitate this your Council decided to appoint a Housing Manager to be responsible for repair and maintenance of Council houses at present under my control and to extend the service of Mr. P. Telford as Assistant Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for a further period of twelve months until the Council had an opportunity to review the whole staff position.

- c. To close the present offices and depot of the Water Company and transfer to the present Council's Depot, the waterworks section.
- d. To take over the present manual and clerical staff of the Water Company.
- e. An establishment for manual staff was agreed by your Committee, but the appointment of the additional labour to be dependent on operational circumstances and availability of additional transport.
- f. To set up a central stores and to appoint a storekeeper.
- g. To revise the scale of water charges and for record purposes the current water charges are as follows:—

WATER CHARGES.

Domestic Premises. 4/- in the £ on the rateable value of premises with a minimum charge of 30/- per annum. No charge will be made for baths of 50 gallons capacity or less or for water closets.

Where a hose pipe is provided or there is an external tap, an additional charge of £1 10s. 0d. per annum will be made.

Metered Supplies. A supply of water by meter will be required for all premises other than domestic premises and where there is a joint use, i.e., house and shop, each case will be determined on its merits by the Council, i.e., as to whether the supply will be by meter or on a domestic charge. Current water charges for meter supplies are as follows:—

3/- per 1,000 gallons, plus meter rent, subject to a minimum charge of £3 10s. 0d. per annum or 4/- in the £ on the rateable value of the premises, whichever is the greater. Meter rental will be as follows:—

Size of Meter	Charge
$\frac{1}{2}$ "	4/-
$\frac{3}{4}$ "	5/-
1"	6/6
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	12/6
2"	16/-
3"	35/-

Farm Supplies. All supplies, including those to farm houses (but not to cottages) will be given by meter. The normal meter charges will apply but with the substitution of the following minimum charges:—

Farms of 24 acres or less, £5 per annum.
 „ 25 „ or over, £10 „
 plus meter rent.

Initial Connections. The scale of charges for initial ferrule connections to water services or connections by other means will be:—

Size of Connection						Charge
$\frac{1}{2}$ "	...	...	...	...	...	17/6
$\frac{3}{4}$ "	...	...	...	...	...	£1-0-0
1"	...	...	...	...	...	£1-2-6

Testing of Fittings. Water fittings will continue to be tested and stamped by the District Council at the following scale of charges:—

Taps and ball valves	6d. per fitting.
Combination taps	1/- „
Valves— $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and upwards	1/- „

The test stamps of the Corporations of Leeds and Harrogate will be recognised for fittings for use in the district.

Building Operations. Builders are advised that where they are carrying out building works an application for water must be made to me before the water is used, except in cases of emergency.

for new buildings and additions— $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per sq. foot calculated on the total usable floor area.

for works of alteration (a) of a **total cost of £1,000 or more** 5/- per £100 of the total capital cost (Note: Total contract cost and not cost of "Wet Trades").

(b) **costing less than £1,000**—no charge.

The result of the merger will mean that your Council will now be Water Authority for the whole of the Wetherby Rural District with the exception of the parishes of Harewood and Weeton, which are within the Statutory Area of Leeds Corporation, and the parish of Kirkby Overblow, which is within the Statutory Area of Harrogate Corporation.

The number of houses in the supply area is 5,329, the number of houses supplied 4,932, and the population approximately 20,500.

It is obvious that it will be necessary for my Department to devote a considerable amount of time during the ensuing year to water supply matters, but I am confident that with the active interest of the Water Committee, very considerable improvements can be achieved in a relatively short period.

VII. PUBLIC CLEANSING, TRANSPORT AND SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1950.

a. Development of Service.

The service has operated smoothly and efficiently during the year, although there have been several matters which have arisen requiring a decision by your Council. In this respect your Council have considered the service to isolated and outlying properties and have placed an order for the necessary transport to enable a service to be given to such properties. Your Council declined, however, to increase the frequency of collection from fortnightly to weekly in view of the heavy additional cost which would be necessary to give such a service.

There are a number of matters on which the policy of the Council is desired, particularly in respect of collection of trade refuse, etc., and it is hoped that the Council will consider this in the ensuing year.

b. Organisation.

The district is divided into four collection areas and each vehicle is operating with a driver and two loaders with such augmentation of loaders as is appropriate in the more urban parishes to speed up collection. Your Committee considered what would be necessary to enable a service to be given to isolated farms and cottages and decided to purchase a commercial type vehicle with a detachable body so that the same could be used for refuse collection and general haulage work. This vehicle was delivered towards the end of March, 1950, and will be put into use for the service to isolated properties after each of the existing vehicles has been re-painted and completely overhauled.

c. Transport.

During the year delivery was made of the cesspit emptier and of the Austin 2½ ton commercial lorry with special detachable refuse body and you considered in February the acquisition of further refuse vehicles with a view to replacing the older vehicles. An inspection was made of various types of vehicle and finally it was decided to purchase a Dennis Paxit Self-Loading 20 cub. yd. refuse collection. This was done after 7 days demonstration of work in the district and the experience was such as to make it obvious that this vehicle would be extremely useful in serving the outlying parishes and would eliminate the waste time of journeys to and from tips. With this vehicle only one journey would be required per day to tip.

The transport used in the Department is as follows:—

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------|----|----------|-------------------|
| 1 | 1943 | Scammell | 6 | cub. yd. | refuse collector. |
| 1 | 1945 | „ | „ | „ | „ |
| 1 | 1946 | Dennis | 10 | „ | „ |
| 1 | 1947 | „ | „ | „ | „ |
| 1 | 1948 | „ | „ | „ | „ |
| 1 | 1948 | Jowett | 10 | cwts. | van. |
| 4 | Salvage Trailers for attachment to refuse collection vehicles. | | | | |
| 2 | Royal Enfield motor cycles. | | | | |
| 1 | Austin load-star 2½ ton lorry. | | | | |
| 1 | Dennis cesspit emptier. | | | | |

Additional transport placed on order during the year has been three motor cycles for waterworks personnel and three 10 cwt. vans for waterworks personnel and for general haulage.

d. Labour.

I have previously outlined under the heading of staff at the commencement of this report, development in this respect, but I have again to report that during the summer months difficulties arise by an inadequate labour force due to holidays and increased duties and I fear that it is inevitable that the Council will have to decide a fixed holiday period for all workmen (with the exception of a skeleton staff to deal with urgent matters during the holiday weeks).

e. Refuse Disposal.

Refuse Disposal is now taking place at 13 tips and during the year very careful consideration has been given to the need for additional tips, but no additional tip has actually been acquired.

Sites under consideration are East Keswick-Bardsey; Dunkeswick-Kirkby Overblow; Spofforth-Wetherby-Kirk Deighton. This matter is now becoming one of great urgency as the Bardsey tip is almost full and an additional tip will be required for the Wetherby area at an early date.

I am perturbed regarding deterioration in the condition of tips particularly during the summer months when the usual method of controlled tipping is to some extent being nullified due to the absence of ash contained in the refuse and although I am purchasing ash commercially I cannot for economy reasons obtain the quantity which is necessary to make a satisfactory job. The shortage of labour in the summer months by reason of holidays also renders it impossible to excavate covering material on the tips themselves. During the winter months the normal percentage of ash in refuse, together with greater availability of labour, enables the tips to be kept in much better condition and this is a matter which I shall have to ask the Committee to consider

very carefully in the ensuing year. The solution to the whole problem may be in the purchase of some kind of mechanical excavator which can travel from tip to tip and be used for excavating and applying covering material on the site.

f. Financial and General Statement.

I give financial details of the service for the year and have to point out that although this represents a substantial increase, there has been additional expenditure during the year in respect of the cesspit emptying service:—

	£	s.	d.
Labour	5238	5	4
Refuse Disposal	520	0	0
Motor Vehicle depreciation and operational costs	2220	1	3
Rents, rates, insurance and sun- dries	632	3	2
	8610	9	9
Sundry Income	575	4	11
	£8035	4	10

Annual cost per property 24/9.

*Mileage of motor vehicles	27,774
*Petrol used (in gallons)	4,248
Bins emptied	178,025
Middens cleansed	3,595
Pail closets emptied	12,858
Loads removed	2,447
*These figures include collection of salvage.	
Cesspools and septic tanks emptied ...	535
Loads from cesspools	819

g. Salvage.

The collection and segregation of waste materials, particularly paper and rags has continued and there has again been an increase in the quantity of materials recovered during the year. Financial details in respect of this service are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Sales of salvage	1459	14	11
Expenditure including salvage bonus	1144	9	3
Balance to rate fund	358	0	8

The salvage sold is equivalent to £67 per 1,000 population or 1/7¼d. per head of population. Since the inception of the salvage scheme in 1940 the total value of materials sold is £11,234 13s. 7d. or an average per year of £1,021. Payment of the incentive bonus to workmen has continued as in the previous year.

During the year the Ministry of Supply removed the direction making it obligatory on the Council to collect and dispose of salvage, and in view of the difficulty of disposing of paper many local authorities discontinued salvage operations. Your Council, however, were fortunate in having a long term contract to the paper mills and it has been possible to continue the salvage collections which are advantageous (not merely financially) but also by reason of the disposal of paper in huge quantities which would otherwise find its way into the tips and for practical purposes salvage can, therefore, be regarded as one form of refuse disposal. The amount of salvage bonus paid during the year was £358 0s. 8d.

h. Dustbins.

Your Council, in May, decided to adopt the complete scheme of Council ownership of dustbins and this scheme has worked very satisfactorily and has, for the first six months, been less costly than I had anticipated. I append details of the supply of dustbins from which it will be seen that since free issues commenced 224 dustbins have been issued at a cost to the Council of £224 12s. 6d. On the basis of this it will be apparent that the cost of the free dustbin service may not exceed a 1d. rate per annum. The sale of dustbins resulted in an income to the Council of £326 3s. 1d.

Bins in Stock, 31st March, 1949	...	...	321
Bins purchased during year	...	...	394
			715
Total Issued	...	...	515
Bins in Stock, 31st March, 1950	...	...	200
Bins sold to Private Owners	...	...	220
Bins issued on Free Replacement Scheme			224
Bins replaced on Vehicles	...	...	20
Bins allocated to Council Houses	...	...	51
Total Issued	...		515

In connection with this dustbin scheme the Council emphasise that it is a replacement scheme and when a dustbin is supplied both the owner and the occupier of the house are notified that the bin is expected to last for seven years and that any replacements required within the period will be at the owner or occupiers cost. The supply of dustbins in numbers to larger houses, schools and similar institutions is left to my discretion with your overriding instruction to supply the same number of bins as would have been required by Statutory Notice in the past.

Trade premises must continue as in the past to provide their own bins but the Council continue to sell dustbins to owners of these properties.

The effect of this replacement scheme has been very much appreciated by the general public and will in course of time be of material assistance in speeding up refuse collection. A British Standard bin of $2\frac{1}{2}$ cub. ft. capacity has been supplied and this bin is of good appearance and sufficiently robust to give a good life under reasonable use.

Your Council's byelaws in respect of removal of house refuse have been of considerable use in preventing deposit of liquid matter in dustbins.

VIII. ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

The work of abatement of nuisance has continued as a routine item of work, whilst although this is a routine item, it is, nevertheless a very important item and the work tends to become more difficult due to the present cost of carrying out building repairs and the financial problems which are concerning many owners of small cottages.

Great care is taken in requiring works, of ensuring that the demands of the department are reasonable, but I must again emphasise that as a public health official it is my duty, irrespective of external considerations, to deal with nuisances which require abatement. In Appendix A. is a detailed statement for the year and a summary of this is as follows:—

Nuisances outstanding, 31/12/48	...	...	302
Nuisances found, 1949	...	...	1530
Nuisances abated, 1949	...	...	1519

Nuisances outstanding, 31/12/49	...	...	313
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

It will be observed by reference to my previous report that 200 additional nuisances have been dealt with and in this work it has been necessary to issue 898 informal notices by letter and 107 statutory notices. The following is a summary of the statutory notices:—

STATUTORY NOTICES.

		Out- standing 31/12/48	Issued 1949	Abated 1949	Out- standing 31/12/49
Public Health Act, 1936.					
Section 138	Provide Water	14	38	24	28
„ 89	Additional W.C.	5	—	4	1
„ 47	Conversion of E.C. to W.C.	16	15	15	16
„ 45	Defective closets	10	2	12	—
„ 93	Nuisances	20	7	5	22
„ 75	Provision of dustbins ...	10	23	33	—
„ 59	Provision of Paving	7	1	1	7
„ 39	Provision of drainage and/or sinks	14	18	24	3
Factories Act, 1937.					
	Provision of W.C.	—	2	—	2
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.					
		—	1	1	—
		96	107	119	84

Notices complied with by the Council in default or on behalf of owners — 51.

Notices in progress by the Council in default or on behalf of owners — 12.

IX. SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

a. Food Hygiene.

Regular inspections of premises coming under this heading have been made and work in this connection continues to be intensified. The following premises are registered for the manufacture, sale or storage of food in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—

	Premises on register, 1948	Added to register, 1949	TOTAL
Sale and storage of ice cream	10	10	20
Manufacture of ice cream	3	1	4
Manufacture of preserved food	20	—	20
Fish frying	5	—	5

b. Food Inspections.

The restrictions imposed by the Ministry of Food on the use of slaughterhouses by butchers for the slaughter of livestock continue and these are only used for the occasional slaughter of pigs for private owners. The licences of these slaughterhouses are being kept in force by annual resolution of the Council.

There were twenty-two instances, during the year, of food being found unfit for human consumption as follows:—

Condemned Food

Commodity	Reason for Condemnation	Weight
Pigs (two)	Generalised T.B.	268 lbs.
Minced Beef	Putrefaction	78 „
Beef	do. and bone taint	385 „
Oats	Mouldy	20 „
Cheese	do. and Mites	26½ „
Salad Cream	Putrefaction	1 „
Tinned Foods	Blown tins	39 „
Ground Almonds	Mice contamination	28 „
		825½ „

c. Milk Production and Distribution.

As from the 31st October the supervision of milk production passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and from that date your Council are only responsible for matters in respect of milk after milk leaves the farm, and I am now engaged in checking up on the retail distribution of milk. Supervision of milk production work was carried on energetically up to the date of transfer and for this purpose 541 inspections of cowsheds and dairies were carried out during the year. 36 samples of ordinary milk were submitted by the Department for bacteriological examination and of this number 9 did not satisfy the test; 11 samples of pasteurised milk were examined and 3 of these were unsatisfactory. Details of samples collected are given below:—

			Presence of T.B.	Past.	Methylene Blue Test		Ord.	Total
					Accred.	T.T.		
Fit			19	8	4	6	17	54
Unfit			2	3	1	—	8	14
			21	11	5	6	25	68

d. Food and Drugs Adulteration.

Responsibility for this work rests with the West Riding County Council and I regret that there is little liaison between the officers of the two authorities concerned with food inspection and control.

Your Council decided during the year to apply to the Ministry of Food for delegation of duties from the County Council as a Food and Drug Authority.

e. Ice Cream.

At the close of the year 20 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act,

1938, and four other premises were registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

An intensification of control of ice cream took place during the year and on three Sundays in June, July and August samples were collected from itinerent vendors.

Several minor defects in handling and methods have been discovered and dealt with.

29 samples were collected with the following results:—

Provisional Grade I	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Grade II	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ Grade III	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Grade IV	...	...	...	...	...	8

In this connection I think it desirable to explain these grades:—

Provisional Grade	Time taken to reduce methylene blue
I.	4½ hours or more
II.	2½-4 hours
III.	½-2 hours
IV.	0

On any sample being found to fall into Grades III or IV the matter is taken up directly with the manufacturer and if the source of manufacture is outside your district also with the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the local authority concerned.

X. SUPERVISION OF WORKPLACES.

a. Factories Act, 1937.

The following is a summary of the work achieved under this heading:—

Type of Factory	Registered	Inspections	Defects Found	Remedied
Factories with power ...	92	131	1	1
Factories without power ...	79	81	4	4
Other premises	41	64	1	1
	212	276	6	6

Defects found were:—

Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	1
Insufficient sanitary conveniences				4
Defective conveniences		...	...	1

b. Shops Act, 1934.

Inspections of 81 shops and offices have been made during the year and no contraventions were found. It is understood that the law relating to shops and offices is now under review by a special committee and that amendment of legislation is possible in the near future.

XI. DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

a. Disinfection.

The work of routine disinfection of premises after removal of cases of infectious disease to the Isolation Hospital has continued. 27 disinfections having been carried out during the year.

b. Bed Bugs.

During the year only one case of infestation of bed bugs was brought to my notice and this was dealt with.

c. Other Pests.

During the year some minor infestations, particularly of cockroaches and crickets occurred, and in every case successful treatment was given.

d. Rodent Control.

The work of rodent control has continued successfully and 42 cases of rodent infestation at private and business premises have been dealt with. Many more premises have been surveyed and test baits laid, and the Council's tips have been regularly treated. The first sewer treatment was carried out during the year and as this showed that the sewers were almost clear the Ministry only required three short branches of sewer to be treated a second time. This treatment was also carried out during the year.

The law in respect of rodent control has been considered by Parliament and a new rodent control act comes into force on the 1st April next. Under this new act further duties and powers are placed on your Council in respect of rodent control, but I am of opinion that the Council's present organisation will comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture for this work.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. Camping and Moveable Dwellings.

The supervision of camping and moveable dwellings has continued and has involved a considerable amount of work including 154 inspections of camping sites. No undue difficulties have arisen, but I am of opinion that the Council will shortly have to give further consideration to this matter as the present camping sites are all full and it may be necessary for additional sites to be licensed.

b. Public Conveniences.

The work of construction of the Wetherby Public Conveniences was completed early in the year and complimentary references have been made by the public and the press to the satisfactory provision which has now been made by the Council

in the parish of Wetherby. The contract cost of public conveniences was £1,635 9s. 6d., and the final cost £1,664 12s. 1d.

Financial details in respect of this service are:—

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	Income	£	s.	d.
Loans:				Income	258	11	0
Principal	66	19	11				
Interest	37	2	7				
Maintenance							
Expenses	130	11	5				
Excess of income							
over Expenditure	23	17	1				
	£258	11	0		£258	11	0

The scheme for the provision of public conveniences at Boston Spa has been prepared during the year and submitted to the Ministry of Health. It is anticipated that a Public Inquiry will be held early in 1950.

c. Petrol Supplies.

I have continued to deal with petrol supplies and the following are details of issues and mileage:—

	Petrol (Gallons).	Miles Travelled.
Refuse Collection	4,248	27,774
Water	114	1,048
Housing	11	171
Sewerage	175	2,234
General Health	16	514
Rodent Control	97	3,544
Salvage	2	42
	4,663	35,327

d. Petroleum Act, 1928.

44 petrol storage licences have been issued for the total storage of 48,060 gallons of petrol. One carbide storage licence has been issued for 800 lbs. of carbide.

e. Civil Defence.

The re-creation of a Civil Defence Corps has been decided upon by the Government during the year and you have agreed to my appointment by the West Riding County Council as Commandant of the Rescue and Pioneer Corps for your district and it is expected that the ensuing year will see an intensification of this work.

f. Schools.

As previously reported inspection of schools continues and the supervision of water supplies is a particular duty. Towards the close of the year your Council had under consideration the sanitary conveniences and water supply of the remaining five schools, not provided with piped water supplies and water carriage sanitation.

g. Dangerous Buildings.

It has again been necessary to deal with three dangerous buildings during the year.

h. Land Charges.

273 Land Charge requisitions were referred to me for information and this is a work which is becoming increasingly important.

i. Contracts.

Work under this heading is continuing to increase and the number of specifications and contracts for which I have been responsible has involved a considerable amount of work. The number and value of contracts is listed below:—

	No.	Value
Contracts brought forward from 1948	15	£6,344 7 4
Contracts entered into during 1949	13	£4,734 2 11

APPENDIX A.

Statement required by Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

HOUSING NUISANCES					Outstanding 31/12/48.	Found 1949.	Abated 1949.	Outstand. 31/12/49.
Dirty and/or verminous	...	...	...	...	—	6	5	1
Dis-repair	...	...	...	...	51	248	207	92
Drainage:								
Defective	...	...	...	...	4	146	143	7
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	5	155	160	—
Blocked	...	...	...	...	—	27	27	—
Defective sinks	...	...	...	...	4	43	46	1
Light and ventilation (inad.)	...	...	...	...	2	12	12	2
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	—	3	2	1
Paving (inad./defective)	...	...	...	...	3	27	28	2
Refuse Storage:								
*Bin renewals	...	...	...	...	16	119	135	—
*Bin provision	...	...	...	...	11	85	96	—
Pail closet renewal	...	...	...	...	—	4	4	—
Middens abolished	...	...	...	...	8	68	57	19
Sanitary Conveniences:								
Defective	...	...	...	...	3	34	32	5
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	5	24	28	1
Conversions to W.C.	...	...	...	...	16	87	71	32
Conversions to pail closets	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Serious dampness	...	...	...	...	9	34	33	10
Sewage disposal:								
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	2	205	206	1
Direct to streams	...	...	...	...	2	33	35	—
Water supply (unsatisfactory)	...	...	...	...	154	58	79	133
Miscellaneous:								
General	...	...	...	...	1	6	7	—
Rodent infestation	...	...	...	...	—	26	26	—
Food storage (unsatisfactory)	...	...	...	...	2	15	17	—
					298	1465	1456	307

*To 30th October, 1949 (when free scheme commenced).

GENERAL NUISANCES

	Outstanding 31/12/48.	Found 1949.	Abated 1949.	Outstand. 31/12/49.
(total of premises or cases dealt with)				
Accumulation (offensive)	—	2	2	—
Animal keeping	—	1	1	—
Dangerous buildings	2	1	3	—
Food premises (defects)	—	3	3	—
Factories	—	6	6	—
Rodent infestation	—	13	11	2
River and stream pollution ...	—	—	—	—
Sewerage:				
Blocked sewers	—	24	22	2
Defective sewers	—	7	5	2
Shops (defects)	—	2	2	—
Miscellaneous	2	6	8	—
Total General Nuisances ...	4	65	63	6
TOTAL ALL NUISANCES	302	1530	1519	313

GENERAL PROVISION OF SERVICES.

Piped water supply	...	79	Baths	...	...	...	...	34
Water closets (new)	...	99	Hot water	...	...	...	...	31
Re-drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
Septic tanks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37

NOTICES ISSUED, ETC.

	Informal	Statutory
Outstanding, 1948	51	96
Issued, 1949	898	107
Complied with, 1949	842	119
Outstanding, 31/12/49	107	84
Legal Proceedings	—	—

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Building Byelaws (new buildings)	...	...	...	...	...	1302
Building Licensing	...	...	...	...	...	409
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	541
Conversions of Earth Closets	...	...	...	...	...	631
Camping	...	...	...	...	...	154
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	27
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	324
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	291
Nuisances General	...	...	...	...	...	186
Housing Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1016
Housing (incl. Rural Housing Survey)	...	...	...	...	...	1771
Housing Programme (New Houses)	...	...	...	...	...	540
(see also Building Byelaws)						
Infectious Disease Inquiry	...	...	...	...	...	38
Meat and Food Inspections (unfit)	...	...	...	...	...	43
Public Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	361
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	95
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	141
Sewerage	...	...	...	...	...	298
„ proposed schemes	...	...	...	...	...	154
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	20
Shops (sanitation)	...	...	...	...	...	81
Town Planning	...	...	...	...	...	301
Waterworks	...	...	...	...	...	241
„ proposed schemes	...	...	...	...	...	201
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	199

